

VERTE.032CPCCC1D
Serial No. 10/726,774
Amendment in Response to Phone Interview

PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims is intended to replace all previous claims listings:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method of processing a thin, flat substrate having two generally planar opposite sides, comprising:

supporting the substrate in a substantially horizontal orientation;

positioning a transmitter adjacent to one of the planar sides of the substrate;

flowing liquid onto both planar sides of the substrate so as to form a meniscus of liquid between the transmitter and the one planar side of the substrate;

transmitting sonic energy to the liquid on the one planar side of the substrate via the transmitter so that the sonic energy passes through substrate and to the opposite planar side of the substrate, thereby loosening particles on both sides of the substrate while maintaining said substantially horizontal orientation.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1 wherein said one side is an upper side of the substrate.

Claim 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said energy is megasonic energy.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A method of cleaning a thin articles having two generally planar opposite sides, said method comprising:

applying cleaning fluid to one of said sides while supporting said article in an substantially horizontal orientation;

positioning a transmitter close to and adjacent to the other one of said planar sides of the substrate;

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applying cleaning fluid to the other one of said sides so as to form a film of cleaning fluid between the transmitter and the other one of said sides; and

applying energy to the other one of said sides via the transmitter with sufficient power to produce vibration on said one side in an area of said cleaning fluid to loosen particles on said one side, while maintaining said substantially horizontal orientation.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said energy is applied by applying cleaning fluid to said other side of the article to couple said vibration to the article so as to loosen particles on both sides of the article simultaneously.

Claim 7 (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said energy is applied by an energy transmitter closely spaced from said other side.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said other side is an upper side of the article.

Claim 9 (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said vibration is at one or more megasonic frequencies.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~5~~ 10 wherein said other side is an upper side of the article.